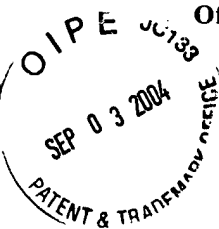


DOCKET NO.: MSFT-0174/150793.01  
Application No.: 09/577,250  
Office Action Dated: December 31, 2003

PATENT  
REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED  
PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO  
37 CFR § 1.116



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

**Jonathan S. Goldick, Luis Felipe  
Cabrera, Paul Oltean**

Confirmation No.: 8456

Application No.: 09/577,250

Group Art Unit: 2154

Filing Date: April 24, 2000

Examiner: Haresh N. Patel

For: **Method and Apparatus for Registering and Storing Dependencies among  
Applications and Objects in a Computer System, and for Communicating the  
Dependencies to a Recovery or Backup Service**

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO: EV397435522US  
DATE OF DEPOSIT: September 3, 2004

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

REPLY PURSUANT TO 37 CFR § 1.116

In response to the Official Action dated **December 31, 2003**, reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and/or remarks as indicated below:

- ☐ **Amendments to the Specification** begin on page \_\_\_\_\_ of this paper.
- ☒ **Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of the claims which begins on page \_\_\_\_\_ of this paper.
- ☐ **Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page \_\_\_\_\_ of this paper and include an attached replacement sheet.
- ☒ **Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.